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## American

# Journal of Philately.

A Monthly Journal devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors.

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Those Old-time Prices.

ERIODICALLY someone turns up an old catalogue and reprints a lot of the prices, paralleled by those now current. Probably the compiler's idea is that collectors will find this sort of thing amusing, but he is often mistaken. The deadly parallel is seldom pleasing to those who are

touched by it. The knowledge that forty years ago we might have bought for pennies things that now cost pounds is neither useful nor entertaining. It does not aid us to distinguish among the common stamps of to day the rarities of the future, and it does not please us to know that things that are now among the unattainables could once have been purchased for almost nothing. A few of us have realized the futility of these comparative tables of values and do not waste time in reading them, but many collectors peruse them eagerly and then sigh because they were not collectors in the days of long ago when such wonderful bargains were attainable, or talk of the fortunes that they might have made had they been around on bargain day and bought all the stamps in sight. It is a pity that such interesting possibilities are preceded by the little word "If"

These reflections are induced by reading a short article in the last number of the Monthly Journal, in which some extracts are given from Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons' letter book for the year 1864. Among these extracts we find quotations of Cape of Good Hope woodblocks at 3 shillings per dozen and the errors at 4 shillings each. These prices are calculated to make the average collector think that which was thought by the little boy who was whipped. It is certainly disquieting to read such prices and think of those that we pay to day for the same stamps. But reflection will show us that there is another side to the picture. Not everything has advanced in value to such an extent as the Cape errors. In one of Mr. Gibbons' letters, for instance we read, " Corrientes stamps are worth a guinea apiece". Suppose we had been hunting for bargains that day and had invested in Corrientes stamps; we would have had a long wait for profits. But someone says, "Only think what a fortune Mr. Gibbons would have made if he had locked up those woodblocks in a safe and let them remain there until to-day." Perhaps he would, but it is possible that a little figuring of compound interest on their value in 1864 would show a different result. And who can say that, having sold his woodblocks, he did not buy something on which he made a

After all, there is little to be gained by thinking of opportunities lost. Foresight would be a most useful attainment, but hindsight is only a cause of

still greater profit, and so again and again.

vain regret and swear words. Why should the collector sigh? If he cannot eliminate commercialism from his collecting and must think about cost price and selling price, then let him take to himself the cheering thought that, since prices have advanced in the past, they may reasonably be expected to do so in the future. There are probably just as many golden opportunities to-day as ever there were. The judicious collector is reasonably sure to strike some bargains, and, after all, he is not supposed to be collecting for profit but for entertainment. If he make a fortunate purchase we may congratulate him, but should he get nothing from his collection beyond the pleasure of gathering it we consider him fully repaid.



## Some Stamp Designs.

#### C. A. Howes.

In tracing the "Evolution of the Stamp Collector" I spoke of finding something of interest on almost every page of the general collection, not only for the collector himself but for those to whom he may be showing his treasures. Though they may have otherwise no interest in stamps, yet to be uninitiated the varying designs, particularly when of artistic merit or of a strange and unusual appearance, at once attract attention and generally call for some explanation from the owner. I recall the admiration with which the chief designer of a well known Boston firm of interior decorators returned again and again to the page of my album where the 3 1/2 and 7 ruble stamps of Russia had caught his eye, and the manner in which he enlarged upon their artistic conception. Almost without exception the octagonal stamps of the Turkish occupation of Thessaly bring forth at least one question from those who see them; and some of the quaint designs of the Orient and the pictorial stamps which are becoming so popular call for many remarks and

many inquiries.

Now it is just here that the collector generally breaks down. Much has been said and written about the educational value of stamp collecting, and it is quite true. If the collector is at all inquisitive he cannot help gathering a fund of general knowledge of men and things which is world-wide, and without realizing it he will absorb more varied information than perhaps any other hobby would impart. To the collector who studies his stamps (and I do not refer to the minor variety crank nor the devotee of microscopic philately) a vast field is opened where he can wander far and in many directions. Questions of history, political government, civilization, financial matters, art, engraving, etc, offer a selection to broaden the mind of any one who will recognize the opportunities laid before him by these little pieces of paper and their proper study. All these points have been well discussed, but one of the obvious though much neglected subjects lies in the designs of the stamps themselves which are often so distinctive, in the raison d'être of their issue, and in the explanation of the various pictures or figures which are becoming increasingly popular in new issues.

This by-path of philately has proven a most interesting and entertaining one. What little has been written in this line has generally been meagre and scattered, but I have made it a practice to keep a scrap-book in which all items of information are placed for ready reference, and I find it of very great value. One cannot see all that appears, of course, but by supplementing what is picked up with personal research a great deal of interest and value can be gained, and the collector will not be "floored" when a friend, gazing at the 3 pence stamp of Tonga, asks "What's that thing?" The results of some of these inquiries combined with the information gleaned from my scrapbook I shall endeavor to place before the readers of the Journal in a compact form, and I trust that if any unintentional slip is made-for much misinformation has been published along these lines, and it is not always easy to tell the wheat from the chaff-or if meagre information in any case can be supplemented, that those better informed will let us hear from them and so help us

all to round out our knowledge.

To begin with let us look at one of the handsomest series of stamps that adorn our albums, the recent pictorial issue of New Zealand. This was born of a laudable ambition to advertise these wonderful islands to the world at large, and for that purpose typical scenes and objects were selected and the execution of the designs wisely given to the London firm of Waterlow & Sons. It seems strange that for so many years past the colonies of Australia have been content to put up with the inartistic and generally cheap looking productions of their postal departments. The early issues of New Zealand, Van Diemen's Land, Queensland and Western Australia from the firm of Perkins, Bacon & Co., were handsome stamps, finely executed and of chaste designs, and the more recent work of Messis. De La Rue & Co. for Western Australia and Tasmania is not so bad, but even the Centennial Issue of New South Wales leaves much to be desired in execution, if not in some of the designs themselves.

However, New Zealand has now purged herself of abominations and Tasmania has followed her lead. Let us hope that their action will not be lost upon the new Australian Commonwealth when it gives up its present Colombian arrangement of state issues, and that the federal issue, when it finally becomes a fact, will be worthy of the new nation it is to represent.

Some of the designs give us the clue to their identity by the legends attached, while others are not so easy to recognize. The series begins and ends, however, with the representations of Mt. Cook, named after the famous navigator, but called by the natives "Aorangi" or the "light of heaven." This noble mountain is the highest peak in New Zealand and is situated about midway of the chain of mountains in the South Island which are known as the Southern Alps from their resemblance in character to their Swiss prototypes. Being only twenty odd miles from the coast and lifting its head nearly 13,000 feet into the clouds it forms a grand sight for passing vessels, and can be seen for many miles at sea. The views given us, however, are taken among the mountains. That on the 1/2 penny stamp is perhaps the grandest one obtainable, for it is taken from a ceft in the range where one looks down on the Hooker glacier beneath him and across to the towering mass of rugged crags, ice and snow rising 10,000 feet above. The glacier can be seen on the stamp, but the small picture does not do justice to the subject. The view on the 5 shilling stamp is a more general one and was apparently taken from a painting by Joseph Pennell showing the mountain as seen from the valley of the Hooker river, a stream formed by the melting ice of the aforesaid glacier.

On the 5 pence stamp we find a view which at first sight seems somewhat similar to that on the 5 shilling, but is labelled "Otira Gorge." This gorge, a wild and beautiful place, is in the principal pass through the Southern Alps which run the entire length of the South Island. Though only a third of the distance from the north end of the island, yet there is no practicable way accross the mountains south of Arthur's Pass. The gorge lies at its western end and is a deep and narrow ravine cut by the waters from the Otira glacier. The mountains, beautifully wooded, rise on either side from two to six thousand feet, and a carriage road, cut in the rock, runs through the depths of the ravine. The small medallion on the same stamp is labelled "Ruapehu" and shows a volcano, apparently, from whose summit a column of smoke is rising. Now Mt. Ruapehu, the highest peak of the North Island, which rises into the eternal snows with an altitude approaching 10,000 feet, once had the bad

habit of smoking, but has certainly outgrown it and now slumbers as an extinct volcano. It has, however, some more active neighbors, portrayed on the 1 penny stamp whose design was later transferred to the 4 pence.

This pretty view was taken from Lake Taupo looking toward the volcanic mountains. Tongariro, whose activity is intermittent, occupies the center, while the snowy peak of Ruapehu appears just at the right. In the foregroud at the left is a so-called "cabbage palm" which the natives term the ti. The lake itself, called "Taupo Moana," or Taupo Sea, by the Maoris, is a large one, some 300 square miles in area, and lying nearly 1200 feet above sea level. It is mostly shallow but sinks to great depths in some places. The shores are lined with picturesque bays and headlands which exhibit the volcanic character of the region; in fact this central plateau of the North Island is in many respects similar to our Yellowstone Park, though it goes even farther in its volcanic manifestations. These reach their climax around Lake

Tarawera where hot springs, geysers and fumaroles abound.

Formerly there existed two remarkable formations which are depicted on the 5 pence (later the 1 penny) and 9 pence stamps—the Pink and White Terraces. Both were formed in the same manner, a boiling pool overflowing at the top of a hillock and its charged waters depositing their silica as they flowed downward and cooled in their course. The two springs were located on opposite sides of a small lake, about a mile in circumference, which the natives called "Rotomahana" or Hot Lake, and one built up a series of steppes or terraces of purest alabaster while the other, lacking the size and some of the beauty of formation of the White Terrace, made good the deficiency by tinting its handiwork a delicate pink. The wondrous beauty of these terraces was indescribable and, of course, the small pictures on the stamps give but a faint idea of their appearance. One traveller says of "Te Tarata," the White Terraces, shown on the 9 pence stamp, that they were formed of delicate tracery like lace-work congealed into alabaster, forming seven or eight steps, white and smooth as Parian marble, over which a thin film of water continually flowed; and that the basins they enclosed were filled with hot water clear as crystal and of a most beautiful turquoise blue. The Pink Terraces, called "Te Otukapuarangi" were similar and no less beautiful.

But one day—the 10th of June, 1886, to be exact—the neighboring and supposed extinct volcano of Tarawera suddenly awoke, rent itself in twain, desolated and buried the surrounding country under ashes, mud and scoria, and now these marvelous formations, built up through thousands of years, are

only a memory.

One more lake is shown on the 2½ pence stamp, this being Wakatipu in the South Island. It is shaped like a drawnout S and though 56 miles long is nowhere wider than four miles; but it makes up in depth what it lacks in width, for, while its surface is a thousand feet above the sea level, its bottom sinks below it. At its head, between the two rivers which feed it, stands the rugged Mt. Ernslaw which is seen on the stamps, whose summit, at an altitude of 9200 feet, has never been trodden by the foot of man. A Maori legend concerning the origin of the lake relates that a giant was once burnt there and the bed of the lake was formed by the fire. It is said that in pronouncing the name Wakatipu the last syllable is never sounded.

The 2 shillings and 2 pence stamps give us views in the famous sounds of the South Island. A peculiar feature of the south-west coast is its indentation by remarkable fiords or sounds which penetrate far into the mountain chains which here border the sea. They much resemble those of Norway and rival them in the magnificent scenery they afford. The 2 shilling stamp shows

a view in Milford Sound, which is perhaps the most beautiful of all. Vertical cliffs rising for thousands of feet on either hand, with beautiful waterfalls and fine forests to add to the mountain scenery; make a most wonderful sight. The sound is 1100 feet deep at its inmost end and, such is the steepness of its shores, that vessels can tie up within a few yards of the cliffs at almost any point. The scene on the 2 pence stamp I have been unable to identify, though it much resembles a picture of the entrance to Bradshaw Inlet in

Thompson's Sound which I have at hand.

This completes the scenery depicted and, on the remaining four stamps, a glimpse of more animate objects is given. The 3 pence stamps shows a pair of the sacred huia birds. These are black, about the size of a jay, and have long curved bills. There are two wattles beneath the beak which are a rich orange; but the most notable portion of the bird is its tail feathers which are tipped with a broad band of white. These are much prized by the Maori chiefs as ornaments for the hair, and are also used as a badge of mourning. The I shilling stamp shows a pair of Kakas, the hawk-billed parrot which is met with almost everywhere. It is olive brown above, dull red beneath, with scarlet and yellow feathers under the wings. The native name of Ka-Ka comes from its cry. It has excellent powers of mimicry and the Maoris train it for a decoy bird.

The 6 pence stamp shows another peculiarity of New Zealand—the famous apteryx, the wingless and tailless bird, the diminutive survivor of an ancient family of which the giant moa, standing eleven feet high, was the largest. The native name is Kiwi, from its call. The birds are about the size of a hen, of a mottled grayish brown, the feathers resembling hair more than anything else, and with a long bill resembling a snipe. They are nocturnal in their habits but, in spite of this fact, are gradually disappearing.

The last stamp of this inseresting series is the 8 pence with its little picture of a Maori war canoe. In the past they were very large, even 80 feet long, and hollowed out of a single tree with a stone adze. They had high carved stems and sterns and were decorated with red paint and mother ofpearl. They were propelled by scores of paddlemen aided by a triangular sail made of light raupo rushes. Smaller canoes are now made by the natives for more peaceful purposes, and one must go to the museums to see the warcaft. The last object of intereft is the royal crown of Great Britain and Ireland in the top of the figure 8, showing the loyalty of the far away colony. At the right of the stamp is what appears to be the cabbage palm or ti, and at the left apparently the nikau palm.



# Historical Sketch of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg and its Postage Stamps.

#### By Jules Bouvez

#### (Continued from page 230.)

In 1872, after the Franco-German war, the ever growing increase of the postal service in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg and the conclusion of postal conventions with Belgium and Germany for the exchange of registered letters with value declared, decided the Administration of the Grand Duchy to create a new stamp of 1 franc, this having been recognized as indispensable to facilitate the prepayment of said registered letters.

The justification of the use of this new stamp is found particularly in the regulation attached to the order relating to the convention, dated February 26th, 1871, which order contains also certain interesting items which it has

seemed to us useful to mention here.

"Convention.—His Majesty the King of the Belgians and His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, Grand Duke of Luxemburg, desiring to provide for the inhabitants of Belgium and of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg the means of transmitting to one another, through the postal service and under the guarantee of the Postal Administrations, securities payable to bearer, have resolved on assuring this result through a convention, and, through the medium of their plenipotentiaries it has been agreed as follows:

"1. Letters containing securities payable to bearer may be sent either from Belgium to the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg or from the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg to Belgium.

2. These letters may be registered with or without declaration of

value when they are sent from the Grand Duchy.

3. The value declared cannot exceed 2000 frs. for each letter. There

is no limit fixed for the weight.

4. The rate on letters with declaration of value sent from one of the countries into the other is fixed at 10 centimes per 100 francs or part of 100 francs, independently of the tax by weight (20c or 10c per 15 gr. according to the distance) and the fixed rate of 20 centimes applicable to letters without declaration of value.

5. The privilege of requiring a notice of receipt of registered letters, in consideration of a special rate of 20 centimes, is extended to those containing

values declared.

6. A letter containing values declared can be received only on condition of its envelope being fastened with at least five seals of fine wax. These seals must bear a uniform impression reproducing a sign belonging to the sender and be arranged in such a way as to hold all the folds of the envelope.

7. The exact weight of each registered letter containing values declared must be marked by the office of origin in the upper left corner of the address

side.

8. Registered letters containing values declared sent from either direction will be marked on the address side with a stamp bearing the word 'Chargé,' with the stamp "P. D." and with a stamp indicating the date of deposit and the place of origin.

Done in duplicate and signed at Brussels February 25th and at Luxemburg February 26th, 1871.

The Director General of Finances of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. (signed) G. ULVELING.

The Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of Belgium.

(signed) FASSIAUX."

In addition to this convention, the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg on June 19th, 1872, concluded a postal treaty with Germany which also resulted in the exchange of letters with value declared between the Grand Duchy and the countries forming the new German Empire. By this treaty the amount of the value declared could not exceed 1200 thalers and the postage of the letter comprised the rate of a registered letter increased by a proportional rate of half a silbergroschen for each 20 thalers.

As in the case of the exchange with Belgium, these letters were to be

fastened with five seals and their prepayment was made obligatory.

When the issue of a 1 franc stamp was decreed, the Postal Administration of the Grand Duchy, having recognized that since November 20th, 1866, the date of the issue of the 37 1/2 centimes brown, this value had been employed but very little compared with the preceding period from 1859 to 1866, during which time 204,000 of them had been sold, thought of surcharging the 37 1/2 centimes stamps to obtain the new value of one franc. The use of the 37 1/2c brown, of which two printings had been made, the first of 15,000 stamps in 1866 and the second of 84,000 in 1868, had been quite important during the first year of the issue, but from November 23rd, 1867, it was no longer so, when a new convention concluded between the Grand Duchy and North Germany fixed the rate on prepaid letters up to the weight of one 'loth" at one silbergroschen only, and at two silbergr. above this weight. As soon as this new convention was put into force, the stamps of 37½c, which were almost exclusively employed in the postal relations of the Grand Duchy with the countries forming the Austro German Postal Union, became, so to speak, useless. The proof of this is to be found in the statistical information given below with regard to the sale of this value from 1866 to 1872:

Years	37%c stamps sold.
1866	985
1867	13.740
1868	2,214
1869	2,175
1870	7,943
1871	1,608
1872	1,435
Total	24,100

There remained therefore, on October 28th, 1872, when the issue of the stamp of one franc was decreed, 75,800 of the 37½c which the Administration of the Grand Duchy withdrew from circulation in order to surcharge thom "1 franc" in black.

The issue of this new value was announced in the Administrative Memorial by the following notice:

#### "NOTICE-POSTAGE STAMPS.

The Postal Administration sells stamps of one franc which can serve specially for the sending of money orders and values declared.

Luxemburg, October 28th, 1872.

The Director General of Finances,

(signed) G. ULVELING."

We may add, however, that the one franc stamp was not placed on sale

until January 25th, 1873.

The series of stamps of one franc which appeared on and after January 25th, 1873, deserves particular attention. Let us say, first of all, that this stamp exists in as many varieties as the 37½ bistre, seeing that it differs from it only by the surcharge. We enumerate herewith these varieties:

1. If n 37½c deep bistre, black surcharge, thin paper, impression normal, background of the vignette plain.

2. If on 37 1/2c deep bistre, black surcharge, thin paper, background of vignette quadrillé, erroneous impression of the word "CENTIMES" changed into "CENTIMES."

As in the 37½c stamp, this defect appears in two stamps in each sheet of one hundred, which accounts for its rarity.

3. If n on 37 ½c light bistre, thin paper, black surcharge, vignette with background quadrillé, the last two strokes of the letter "M" of the word "CENTIMES" appearing like a letter "T."

4. 1fr on 37 ½c light bistre, black surcharge, vignette part plain and part quadrillé, blurred impression.

5. 1fr on 37½ c light bistre, black surcharge, paper of medium thickness but smooth, impression more or less blurred.

Of all the values issued by the Postal Administration of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, the stamps of 37½c bistre, rouletted in colored lines, which we have described, is, beyond contradiction, the rarest on account of the small number which was employed for the prepayment of correspondence. It is particularly in the very country of its origin that this stamp has always been much sought after. The cause of this is to be found in the fact that it was, so to speak, used only for correspondence going abroad. The result is that its value, which has always been very high, has hardly varied during twenty years. Even in 1882 it could only be purchased in Europe at the price of 30frs new and 25frs cancelled. It will be easily understood, then, that this value, which is fairly easy to imitate, has long tempted forgers, who have produced imitations more or less perfect. These imitations have also served to counterfeit the 1 franc stamp by applying the surcharge, but, by an examination with a magnifying glass, it is easy to distinguish the counterfeit stamps from the genuine.

As a general rule, the 37½c genuine is printed in light bistre or deep bistre and the paper used is thin and smooth. We may add, however, that a number of sheets were printed on a paper of medium thickness; in this case, the stamp is always printed in light bistre and the paper is smooth as in the deep colored printing. When the vignette is with quadrillé background this is generally not very clear, it presents notably colored spots in certain parts of the escutcheon; all the engraving, which is more or less blurred, presents

this effect also.

As to the lines rouletted in color for the separation of the stamps, they are composed invariably of 19 points in height and 17 points in width. The design of the engraving of the 37 ½c presents moreover the following peculiarities:

 The letters "x" and "E" of the word "LEXEMBURG" touch at the base.

2. The two left curves of the figure "3" are but slightly bent and are almost vertical; the figure "3" on the left is wider than that on the right, and the two dots placed at the base and at the top of this figure, seen through a magnifying glass, present inequalities.

3 The upper part of the figure "7" is strongly curved and the curve is always more marked and narrower in the figure at the left than in that of

the right.

4. In the fraction "½" at the left the figure "2" slightly touches the fraction bar towards its left end, whereas on the right it is the figure "1" which touches the bar; the latter seems to be the continuation of the hair line forming the base of the figure "1." In order to make these differences clearer, we reproduce below, greatly magnified, the figures placed on each side of the stamp, just as they are presented in the 37½c genuine.



There are two other falsifications of the 37½c bistre; the first was produced by causing the surcharge "UN FRANC" to disappear by means of a chemical composition. This proceeding having to some extent attacked the color of the stamp, and this fraud having necessitated sometimes a partial scraping of the surcharge, not only has a part of the impression of the engraving been taken away but the paper has been reduced in thickness and this is easy to perceive, although the forger took care to hide the fraud by the application of a false cancellation.

The second falsification, rarer than the first, is that produced by means of the 37½c printed in 1878 for the 1 franc, a certain number of sheets of which were not subjected to the perforation. This falsification can be recognized chiefly by the general indications which we have given and especially by the dotting in colored lines which had to be added by the forger.

The I franc stamp has also been counterfeited by means of the counterfeit 37 ½c, but for this variety, the surcharge "UN FRANC" being applied over the figure, the only general means of making sure of the authenticity of of the stamp is by the observation made under No. 1, with regard to the letters "x" and "E" of the word "LUXEMBURG." We may add, however, that the genuine surcharge measures 14½ mm. long and 3½ mm. high, without the final dot which should exist after the letter "c" and which is distan from it ½ mm.

(To be Continued.)

## Our English Letter.

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

LONDON, 16 August, 1902

Our British colonial Kings' Heads are now coming in full flood. I need not refer to them in detail here for they will be duly noted to you in your regular chronicle, but I may mention one thing which has struck me concerning them, and that in the colours of the values settled by the Postal Union Congress. It will be rembered that the low and universally used values, ½d. rd. and 2½d. were to be green, red and blue respectively. Our English stamps were amongst the last to fall in with the Postal Union recommendation. But they have now fallen into line, for our Kings' head ½d. is green, the Id. red and the 2½d. also, with no bi-colouring interference. With few exceptions our colonies were also in line.

Now, however, the new Colonials, in many cases, seem to be subordinating the Postal Union colour arrangement to other considerations. For instance, already Kings' heads for Gold Coast, Grenada, Northern Nigeria, and St. Vincent are aunounced in bi-colours, the name and value only being in the Postal Union colours. I have seen some of these stamps and it would be absurd to say that they conform to the Postal Union arrangement. Therefore, I shall not be suprised to learn later on that these little mistakes are to be corrected. The excuse, no doubt, will be the well known one of the De la Rue fad for the protective colouring that the fugitive purple gives the stamp for all revenue purposes. Of the new Kings' heads Gambia and Straits Settlements have adopted the Postal Union colours in their integrity.

With two exceptions, so far, the Colonies have accepted one stereotyped, poverty-stricken design, in a key pattern that can be used for all by merely changing the name.

The two exceptions are the Transvaal and Natal. The Transvaal series is a very pleasing design and throughout is printed in pleasing colours of a rather subdued tone. But the Natals are more strongly coloured, with the Kings' head in a circle of solid colour, in very bold obtrusive contrast to the colour of the framework of the design. I have only seen the 3d. 4d. and 1s. but I am told that the higher values, which are in a larger size, are very fine.

A few suprises have recently come to hand from South Africa. It was remarked at the time that the new Transvaal series included no 3.4. or 4d. values. Those omissions have since been made good by overprinting the 3d. and 4d. of the late Republic, with the initals "E. R. I." and now we are expecting the missing values to be made good in the new series of the Kinga head. But the latest suprise is an "E. R. I." 6d. from the Orange River

Colony on the old Orange Free State 6d blue. Months ago we were told that the new series had been prepared for the Orange River Colony, but it shows no sign of appearing, meanwhile we have makeshifts on Cape stamps as well as on Orange Free State issues.

It is reported that all the stamps of the Queens' head design of Northern Nigeria, which were left on hand when the Kings' head set arrived, were forwith destroyed. If this be true, the Queens' head set should be worth having, for the higher values at all events must rapidly appreciate, as there has always been more or less difficulty in getting full supplies. Of Southern Nigeria the supply has always been very limited, and used copies of both countries have been very scarce. As yet we have heard nothing of a Kings' head set for Southern Nigeria.

Cutting rates in the sale of new issues seems to be still the order of the day. How much longer it is to last is a question of some interest and considerable speculation in stamp circles. Mr. Ewen, the initiator of the cutting, is turning his business into a Limited Liability Company, but the outlook for dividends in a rate cutting business can scarcely be much of an attraction to investors. Indeed, it puzzles me considerably to imagine where the profit comes in. Of course, double face for the low values goes a long way, but the small margin on everything else, the certain proportion of damaged and badly centred stuff, play havoc with profits. However, as a collector I have no business to grumble. If Mr. Ewen or any body else chooses to face the music of supplying new issues at even half face, unused, it would be the business of the collector to accept such small mercies and be thankful, and assume that the other party consoled itself with the pleasant reflection that it is far more blessed to give than to receive.

Still, as a collector, I should prefer to see the new issue business firmly placed on a permanent supply basis. It is very annoying to have to hunt from pillar to post for a new issue and, after all, to miss it, as we did some years ago. There are not a few mutterings and some threatenings of what will happen yet if the game is persisted in. I was told the other day of a dealer who was determined to put a stop to it, so determined that he has serious thoughts of simply wiping the floor with all who cut rates, by putting several thousand pounds into the business of supplying all new issues, for as many years as are necessary, at face. If he once interferes, those who are now cutting prices will want single tickets to the New Jerusalsm, or some other land afar off.

Meanwhile, I venture to make one candid admission to the new issue rate cutter and that is the undeniable fact that Mr. Ewen, with his Weekly and his low prices, has raised such a hue and cry for new issues during the last two or three years that he alone has probably doubled the number of new collectors in that period. I know of numbers of cases of collectors in a suspended state of animatian who have been awakened to renewed and healthy philatelic life by the tempting offers of new issues in full sets at low prices.

The secret of the game lies in the beating of the drum. Ewen has had the enterprise to let everybody know that he is very much alive. So far as most of our dealers are concerned you would need to apply a powerful stethoscope to their philateilc hearts to discover any sign of life. Advertising they dont believe in. If they ever advertise it is out of the good nature to the poverty stricken journal that solicits their patronage. By nature they are the lineal descendants of poor old mother Gummidge. The woes, and the ills, and the buffetings of philatelic life are theirs. But, between you and me, dear reader, their bank balances are in mint condition.

Of course it is not all beer and skittles in stamp dealing. The knowing ones who put on a Gummidge air, the "lone lorn creturs" are not all they seem. But it has been hard times for others who had not yet got into the velvet paths of success. The man who is doing well can afford to pose as a pauper but, by Jove, I have met some who know something of the struggle. I walked the other day into one office where the worker assured me he had not had time that week to even have a shave. He was working almost night and day. By day he was a stamp dealer, working hard for elusive profit, by night he was a strolling player, and a precious few hours rest was all he had to keep the human machine going.

Better times let us hope are dawning for the small dealer as well as his more prosperous rival. The past year or so have been sorely hard for most. Bad trade and war and coronations have sadly depressed business. They are now passed, and times should be on the mend. One most encouraging fact is the wonderful stability that stamp collecting has shown through it all.

The war in South Africa has given us a crowd of interesting issues, and a few weeds. But what say the specialists of Columbia to the issues of that troubled country. When quiet is once more restored and the philatelic additions have to be counted up and the pages of our albums compared, it strikes me that there will be many blanks and much fruitless research. And the grand total of the catalogue pages of the said Columbia, what an alarming array. A handbook will be sadly needed and much appreciated by the specialist. I know of only one considerable specialist on this side, and he is always grumbling at the amount of money he has put into South Americans,

A wonderful tri-coloured stamp has been heralded for sometime from Malta, but it has not yet come to hand. Instead, we have the 2½d blue surcharged "One Penny," as a way of using up the stock rendered almost useless by the introduction of Imperial Penny Postage. Of course there is an error, a "Pnney" for Penny. This error seems to have been spotted early by some of the officials and, as a consequence, the sheets sent over to the dealers are minus the error, but those same errors are to be had — at a price. Gibbons put it on sale at 5s, with a charge of 10s. for what is known as the early shade of the 2½d. How many there are of the error we do not know nor are we likely to be told till the speculators have sold out, then we shall probably learn a few things about official speculation.

Speculation by officials is a dangerous element in the possibilities of stamp collecting. Officials after all are only human, and in picking up unconsidered trifles in the way of errors and defective prints they only outdo us in the scramble by virtue of their opportunities as officials. The danger that threatens is the making of intentional errors by collusion with the printers of mere emergency issues printed within call. Our English ministers have more than once privately drawn the attention of dealers to the undesirable temptations that have sometimes, unthinkingly, been placed in the way of colonial postal officials, by dealers, and they discourage, as far as possible, direct relations between dealers and postal officials. The result is that the dealer has frequently to buy through an agent, with all the consequent risks of getting an honest agent.

The colouring of our King's head issues, it will be noted, is much stronger than in the late Queen's heads which they supplant. Some of the printings of the late issues were exceedingly delicate and pale. The stamps of Lagos, for instance, presented an almost washed out appearance. The King's heads are boldly printed. The same purple colour is used for the main portion of the design, but it has more body in it. I see that most of our chroniclers dub the colour "lilac". It may interest them to know that Messrs De la Rue, the printers, call it "purple".

The Philatelic Record raises the question of the relegation of stamps of the official and unpaid class to a separate catalogue. And I think most experienced collectors will agree that the undoubted trend of latter-day collecting is in favour of the final elimination from the general catalogue of everything but the ordinary prepaying adhesive postage stamp. The increase in the production of these unpaid series of late years is more than ominous. Obviosly they are mere shams for extracting money from collectors. The more insignificant the issuing state, the more elaborate are the sets of unpaids. My advice to collectors would be let others collect them, if you pass them over you will not be a loser in the end. Your money will be much better invested in the regular and more legitimate issues.

Cannot some Chilian specialist, with access to information, tell something about the retouched stamps of the Waterlow series which is being supplanted by the American Bank Note Co. designs. So far, I have only been able to get copies of the 1c. and 3oc. The retouching seems to have been confined to the removal of the deeper shading under the word "Chili".

We are expecting the new Gibbons catalogue at the end of this month and there seems to be a pretty general anticipation of further rises in British Colonials. Continentals, when Part II, comes to be issued, will most assuredly show a fall, for at present they are selling very badly, whereas British Colonials are steadily rising. At the auctions even remainders of collections of Colonials fetch long prices. Anything colonial in good condition brings satisfactory prices.

During the past season there have been several sets of the British South

Africa provisionals of 1891, put through the auctions, and the price has run up to £5.2.6. A few years ago they were to be had readily at the catalogue price of 21s. Now they catalogue up to £8.5.0. The explanation lies in the fact that when they came out Gibbons was fortunate enough to get a good supply, and until that supply was nearly exhausted he sold them at 21s. the set. Then up goes the price, and now they are very searce in really mint condition. Used they are rarely ever met with.

British South Africa is now a very nice little country for a specialist looking for a fresh field. Nothing has yet got into the unattainable rank, and most of the issues are very reasonably priced, some, in my opinion, temptingly low. The outlook is full of possibilities. The various series are full of interest, and the few provisionals are of exceptional value. The designs are all off the beaten track of mediocrity. The only objection lies in the high values running up to  $\pounds$ 10, all of which are available, and have been legitimately used, for postal purposes.

Cook Islands seem to be in no particular hurry to discard Queen Makea's portrait so far as postage stamps go. The issue of the 2½d. value in the Postal Union colour, blue, with the design unchanged is a bit of a suprise, seeing that the islands have now been for some considerable time under the British crown.

Here again is another nice little country for specialising. Even the first issue is still to he had at low prices. As a cheap country for specialising in a mild way it would be hard to beat. Of course, there is not enough in it to satisfy the wealthy collector, but there is enough to give a young specialist an interesting hunt, with every prospect of being able to obtain completion without much outlay of precious dollars. The country has been well, and exhaustively, written up by Mr. Basset Hull, in the Monthly Journal.

Recent changes in our Ministry have given us a new Postmaster General in the person of Mr. Austin Chamberlain, son of our Colonial Secretary. Whether his term of office will be of philatelic interest remains to be seen. He is said to be as masterful as his father, and, that being so, it is pretty generally hoped that he will not be so led by the nose by the permanent officials as his predecessors have been. As the new stamps are now all issued he is not likely to make any changes in that direction.

The National Chamber of Trade has been making various suggestions for the consideration of the Post Office. Amongst other things it wants an International postage stamp, a foreign letter rate in the Postal Union not to exceed 2½d, for the first half ounce, and ½d, for each additional half ounce, postmarking machines with legible postmarks, and letter boxes in all tram cars.

The discussion of the designs of our new King's head stamps has sub-

sided, so much so that an art journal which recently attempted to get a competition for a better design, and offered prizes of £8, £4, and £2, got only one set of designs sent in. It was an eye opener to the editor, and possibly it will be an eye opener to stamp collectors. The explanation probably lies in the generally recognized utter hopelessness of ever making any rational impression upon the stolid British official mind.

As editor of the stamp department of a popular monthly magazine, I recently received the following letter: "A friend of mine have a few Hawaiian stamps for sale, one 1735, the king in uniform, used, and two others date 1758, 2c. black, used. He wants a good price, can you find a customer, or make an offer?" I was much tempted to send that correspondent on to Mr. C. J. Phillips for a certain round thousand sterling.

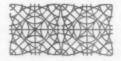
We have a new Vice President in the London Philatelic Society, in the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. He has a magnificent collection in the making. He it was who bought the Tiffany philatelic library for £2,000. Mr. Castle voluntarily and very unselfishly vacated the post in the Earl's favour. Earl Crawford has unfortunately to spend most of the winter months out of England for health reasons, therefore, he will be unable to attend many of the regular meetings. Most of his winter is spent cruising in his yacht, the yacht, by the way, being the floating palace built by Jay Gould for his daughter who married the continental princeling.

I note that a great deal of misapprehension is being generated over my friend Mr. Oldfield's crusade against bloating. Some writers on your side seem to be under the impression that Mr. Oldfield is running full tilt at specialism. He is doing nothing of the sort. He has never said a word against specialism. He is far too experienced a specialist himself to do anything so foolish. What he does condemn is bloating, pure and simple, that is, the accumulation and inclusion in specialist collections of unnecessary duplicates. He regards every stamp which does not obviously differ in perforation, paper, shade or otherwise as an unnecessary duplicate, and it is to the inclusion of such stamps in a collection that he takes exception. He contends that any collector who, by the use of exceptional wealth, gathers together and crowds up his pages with copies of rare stamps which can by no stretch of imagination be accepted as legitimate varieties, is, to all intents and purposes, robbing his fellow collectors by lifting from the market stamps which should be available for other collections than his own, where they certainly are not needed. And who can gainsay his contention. Personally, I hope the time will come when such duplicated collections will be rigorously and unflinchingly disqualified in every selfrespecting exhibition.

Another reform that is badly wanted in exhibitions is a restriction that will somehow shut out the overpowering specialist collections from sweeping the decks of medals and prizes in the manner they do now. The various societies get up exhibitions, and the great specialists, being members of most societies of any prominence, swoop down and carry off all the medals and prizes. They are mostly men who should be ashamed of robbing their less

fortunate fellow specialists of other societies. No one will question the pleasure which the display of their grand collections affords to all collectors, but they should confine their competition to notable international exhibitions, and if they exhibit at smaller shows, they should have sufficient selfrespect to mark their exhibits "not for competition."

Collectors will be glad to learn that the Philatelic Society of London has arranged with Mr. Basset Hull to publish his work on the postal issues of the Australian colonies. Mr. Basset Hull is one of our most cultured and careful writers. It is well known that he has for years been devoting himself to this exhaustive work, and we are all delighted to know that the premier society is going to issue it with its undeniable imprimatur. The date of publication, and the price, we shall learn later on; but I presume the society will avail itself of Mr. Basset Hull's stay in this country to put the work to press, in order that he may revise the proofs. If this is done, then the book should be the philatelic event of the coming season.



### Review.

#### "STAMP COLLECTING AS A PASTIME."

A new apostle has arisen and has addressed an epistle to those who, like the Athenians of old, are always seeking some new thing. In other words, Mr. E. J. Nankivell has written, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have

published, a book bearing the foregoing title.

It is plain that the book is designed for missionary work, its object being to attract the attention of those who are not familiar with the merits and fascinations of philately. The instrument chosen for the purpose is an excellent one. Mr. Nankivell is well known to philatelists as a talented and interesting writer, and on this occasion he displays even more than his usual ability and cleverness. A list of the chapter headings will give a fair idea of the scope of the work:

I. Stamp Collecting as a Pastime.II. The Charm of Stamp Collecting.

III. Its Permanence.

IV. Its Internationality.

V. Its Geographical Interest.
VI. Its Historical Finger Posts.
VII. Stamps With a History.

VIII. Great Rarities.

IX. The Romance of Stamp Collecting.X. Philatelic Societies and their Work.

XI. The Literature of Stamps. XII. Stamps as Works of Art.

XIII. Stamp Collecting as an Investment. XIV. What to Collect and How to Collect.

XV. Great Collections.

The book is intended to make collectors—not to instruct those who are already in the ranks—but even familiar things are so well told as to be interesting to the experienced philatelist. The work is full of quotable

things, from which we select a few examples to show its quality:

"To the leisured man it affords a stimulating occupation, with a spice of competition; to the busy professional man it yields the delight of a recreative change; to the studious, an inexhaustible scope for profitable research; to the old, the sociability of a pursuit popular with old and young alike; to the young, a hobby prolific of novelty, and one, moreover, that harmonizes with school studies in historical and geographical directions; to the money maker, an opening for occasional speculation; and to all, a satisfying combination of a safe investment and a pleasure-yielding study."

"The scope for interesting study thus opened up is almost boundless. It includes inquiries into questions of heraldry in designs, of currency in the denominations used, of methods of engraving dies, of the transference of the die to plates, of printing from steel plates and from lithographic stones, of the progress of those arts in various countries, of the manufacture, the variety, and the quality of the paper used—from the excellent hand-made papers of early days to the commonest printing papers of the present day—of postal revenues and postal developments, of the crude postal issues of earliest times, and the exquisite machine engraving of many current issues.

"He who fails to see any justification for money spent and time given

up to the collecting of postage stamps will scarcely deny that these lines of study, which by no means exhaust the list, can scarcely fail to be both fascinating and profitable, even when regarded from a purely educational standpoint."

"Even since the collection of postage stamps was first started it has been sneered at as a passing craze, and it has been going to die a natural death

for the past forty years. But it is not dead yet."

"Those who have tried it attest the fact that few things more completely wean the attention, for the time being, from the vexations and worries of the day than the collection and arrangement of postage stamps. In fact, stamp collecting has an ever-recurring freshness all its own, a scope for research that is never likely to be exhausted, a literature varied and abundant, and a close and interesting relation to the history and progress of nations and peoples that insensibly widens the trend of human sympathies and human knowledge."

Throughout the book pictures of stamps are used as head and tail pieces, the selections being illustrative of the subject matter of the various chapters. The book is handsomely printed on fine paper, neatly bound in cloth, and is

sold at the nominal price of 1 shilling and 3 pence.

## Messrs. Senf Bros.' New Catalogue.

We have received from Messrs. Senf their new catalogue for the year 1902 03. It is a worthy successor to the previous editions of the same work. As usual, the adhesives and entires are separated and the two sections make a compact volume of something over twelve hundred pages. The well-known features of arrangement which have so long characterized this publication are continued, and the very useful explanatory notes are retained and added to. We observe that more attention than usual has been paid to the pricing of minor varieties. The letter press is excellent and the paper is free from the disagreeable feature of transparency. We regret we cannot speak as favorably of the illustrations, many of which are poor, but the reproductions of types and minor varieties are usually very satisfactory. As in previous editions, the attempt is made to price all stamps, but the reviewer prefers to leave criticism of the prices to those who make a study of values and of the fluctuations of the market.



ANTIGUA.—We are informed by a correspondent from the island that the new Antigua stamps will not have the King's head, with the exception of the 5 shillings. It is understood that the design will be "some view of the island taken from the seal of the Presidency."

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BERMUDA.—A stamp of a new type, but without the head of the King, of the value of 1d, is to be issued shortly. A small view showing what appears to be a dock and two or three ships on the sea, all enclosed in a circle, is the principal feature of the design. "Bermuda" appears in a label at the top, and the value below, while a lot of crude ornamentation completes a somewhat feeblelooking stamp.—Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

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BOLIVIA.—We illustrate the new 20 centavos stamp :



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BRITISH COLONIES.—We illustrate several recent issues:









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CHINA.—Shanghai.—Mr. Wm. Alex. Smith, Jr. has shown us imperforate pairs of the 4c of the 1866 issue in two shades, lilac and gray.

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COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC—We have found in our stock the 50c blue on lilac of the 1899 issues in a horizontal pair without perforation between the stamps.

Mr. M. D. Senior informs us that in some sheets of the 20c claret,

provisional issue of Cartagena, which we chronicled last month, he has found one stamp placed tête bêche. This, however, does not exist in all sheets.

Mr. Albert Calman has shown us a horizontal pair of the Bolivar 20c rose of 1882 and a vertical pair of the Santander 5c yellow green of 1896, each without perforations between the stamps.

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Antioquia—We illustrate the Too Late and Return Registration Receipt stamps which we chronicled last month.





BARRANQUILLA.—We translate from the Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste: "The stamps are exhausted. We have received a newspaper wrapper dated Barranquilla, June 24th, which bears this notice in violet ink:

No hay estampillas
Pago S/0.10
El Agente Postal Nacional

The figure of value is in manuscript and below it the signature.

One of our correspondents sends us a translation of the contract entered into between the Chargé of the National Postal Agency at Barranquilla and Mr. Francisco Valiente F., for the manufacture of new postage stamps:

'BARRANQUILLA, 21st December, 1901.

'Andrés M. B. Rebollo, Chargé of the National Postal Agency at Barranquilla (Department of Bolivar), authorized by M. the Civil and Military Chief of the Department, and Francisco Valiente F, have signed the following contract:

'F. Valiente F. agrees to make 2,500,000 postage stamps for the sum of 45,000 pesos, the paper, perforation and gumming being at his expense. The

issue shall be composed as follows:

50,000 stamps of 10 pesos 50,000 " 5 66 65 500,000 1 400,000 " " 50 centavos 66 4.6 20 4 250,000 46 64 100,000 2 1/2 500,000 600,000 50 000

'The stamps of 5 and 10 pesos shall bear the Arms of Colombia; those of 1 peso the portrait of Gen. Prospero Pinzon; those of 50 pesos that of Bolivar; those of 20 centavos a view of the hill of "La Popa" at Cartagena; those of 2 centavos a picture of the quay of Port Colombie; those of 1 centavo a view of the river Magdalena; those of 5 centavos the letters A.R., and those of 2½ centavos the word "RETARDO."

'All these stamps shall bear, also, the words: "REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA

-CORREOS," and the value in figures.'

"The contract was approved by the president of the Republic; but we

must conclude that the stamps are not yet issued, since franking is indicated in figures as is proved by the hand stamp which we have described above."

As will be seen by our chronicle, the 20 centavos of this series has

appeared.

The reader will observe that Barranquilla is in the Department of Bolivar, but there is nothing on the stamps or in the contract to indicate that they are a special issue for that state. They would appear to be available for postage in any part of the Colombian Republic.

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Cartagena.—In European journals we find noted some varieties of the two stamps issued about February last, the 5c violet and 10c brown. These are the 5c without the Star control mark and with the control mark printed twice; the 10c imperforate, rouletted, and with double impression of the control mark.

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COREA.—We have seen the 2 cheun blue of the current series in a horizontal pair imperforate between.

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COSTA RICA — Mr. Albert Calman has shown us a strip of the 20°C yellow-green of 1889 imporforate horizontally.

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—We have recently purchased a few copies of the 5c Commemorative issue of February last, with the head inverted.

We find that we have failed to note similar varieties of the 1c and 2c of

this issue.

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FRENCH COLONIES .- We quote the following from Ewen's Weekly Stamp

News:

"We cannot find that we have yet chronicled the 10c single and reply cards and 15c and 25c letter-cards in the Postal Union colors. They were placed on sale in Paris about eighteen months ago, but in many cases no supplies have even yet been officially sent out to the respective colonies. Le Timbrophile Belge now chronicles fresh printings for all the nineteen colonies, but they will only be issued as the earlier stocks are exhausted. The new cards and letter-cards no longer have the date of manufacture printed on them, and the colors are much duller, the general appearance being much inferior.

"Post cards. Names of various colonies. 10c dull red. 10x10c lilac-red

on blue card.

"Letter-cards. Names of various colonies. 15c brownish grey on grey card. 25c dull blue on salmon-rose card (two shades)."

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GUATEMALA.—In December last we announced that a new issue was in preparation. We are now informed that the stamps will be placed in use in the latter part of September or first part of October. The designs will be as follows:

1c Picture of Quetzal.

2c Statue of Rufino Barios.

5c Picture of Reforma.

6c Temple of Minerva.

10c Lake of Amatitlan.

20c Cathedral.

50c Theatre. 75c Artillery Barracks.

100c Statute of Columbu.

200c Indian School.

It will be observed in this issue there is no 25 centavos stamp.

It is said that only 10,000 copies each of the 20c bistre brown and 25c blue green, which we chronicle in this number, were issued.

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HAYTI.-M. Forbin informs L'Echo de la Timbrologie that the provisional government surcharge has appeared with the word "June," instead of "May," and also with the word "July."

There seems to be some doubt as to the correctness of this information,

HONDURAS.—We are informed that the American Bank Note Company are preparing a new issue of stamps for this country, which will probably be placed on sale about the end of this month.

INDIA.—Major Cookson, R. A. has shown the Monthly Journal a copy of the one anna maroon with the "On H. M. S." surcharge inverted.

The same journal reports a horizontal pair of the 1/2 anna blue of 1856, without watermark, with the small "Service" surcharge inverted.

JAPAN.—This country has celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its entry into the Postal Union by the use of a special cancellation mark on June 20th, 21st and 22nd. This postmark has in the center crossed flags, with the date above and "POST JUBILE" below; also, in a double-line circle, inscriptions in Japanese and in French: "JUBILE DE L'ENTRÉE DANS—L'UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE. TOKIO 1878-1902." At the same time, six picture cards, with different views and printed in different colors were issued. They do not bear stamps, but are franked by attaching regular postal adhesives.

LEEWARD ISLANDS,-Mr. M. D. Senior informs us that the new set with the King's head has appeared, with the exception of the 2 and 3 pence. The design and colors are the same as those employed for others of the new British Colonies. We shall list the stamps when we have seen them.

Mr. Senior has also shown us the 21/2p of the Jubilee series with double

surcharge.

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NEWFONDLAND.-We have seen imperforate pairs of the 2c vermilion of the current issue, head of King Edward VII.

NEW ZEALAND.—A correspondent of the Australian Philatelist reports that he has purchased a sheet of the current 2 1/2 p blue, imperforate horizontally.

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NICARAGUA, -Mr. Albert Calman has shown us the 50c violet of 1895.

in a vertical pair, imperforate between; also the roc slate Official stamp of 1893 with inverted surcharge.

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NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—According to the Monthly Journal, the bisected one penny of 1893, surcharged "½" in red, exists in both the dark blue and light blue shades, one sheet of each having been overprinted, the former in May, 1894, and the latter in August of the same year.

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NYASSA.—The 15or black and orange of the 1901 set has been shown us by Mr. Albert Calman in a vertical pair, imperforate between.

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Persia.—Mr. C. Witt has shown us some new varieties in the recent provisional issues.

The 10s of 1899, with the surcharge "Provisoire 1319" in black inverted; the type-set stamps, 1s gray and buff and 12s blue and buff, with the red surcharge, lion in an ornamental circle, inverted.

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Russia.—The 10 kopecs blue is now appearing on vertically laid paper, hitherto the stamps of the current series have had the vergeurs horizontal.

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Trinidad.—It is reported that one pane of sixty of the current one penny black on red was sent out with the value omitted from the lower label. After six copies had been sold, the defect was noticed and the remainder of the pane withdrawn from sale.

We are not informed whether the unsold portion was destroyed or saved

for the benefit of the finder.

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Western Australia.—Mr. Basset Hull informs us that the De la Rue types of 2½d, 4d, 5d, 6d and is were printed from one key plate, with separate overprint plates for each denomination. This necessitated two printings for each value, and the large increase in correspondence resulting from the influx of population following the gold discoveries rendered it necessary to prepare separate plates for those values most in use. For the 2½d, 6d and is, therefore, new dies were engraved. The central design of the Swan remained unaltered, but representations of the native flora were introduced in the spandrels. The 2½d, with hibiscus flowers, has been issued for some time; but the two higher values of 6d and is, although printed and sent out to the Colony, have not yet appeared. So soon as the stock printed from the key plate is exhausted these no doubt will appear. The designs are quite as pretty and effective as that of the 2½d, and the colors, etc., remain unchanged.—The London Philatelist.





ANGOLA.—The flood of surcharges for the Portuguese Colonies, which we announced in July, is at hand. We have seen the new stamps for Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea and Portuguese India. The list for Angola is as follows:

Adhesive stamps. Perforated.

Surcharged



Surcharged on issue of 1886

Black surcharge. 65r on 40r chocolate

65r on 300r orange

115r on 10r green 115r on 200r gray-violet

13or on 5or blue

13or on 10or brown

400r on 20r rose 400r on 25r violet

Red surcharge. 400r on 5r black

Surcharged on issue of 1894.

Black surcharge. 65r on 5r yellow

65r on 10r red-violet

65r on 20r lavender

65r on 25r green 115r on Sor light green

115r on 100r brown on buff

115r on 150r carmine on rose

13or on 15r chocolate

13or on 75r rose

13or on 30or dark blue on salmon

400r on 50r light blue 400r on 20r dark blue on blue

Surcharged on Newspaper stamp of 1893.

40or on 21/2r brown Issue of 1898.

Surcharged in black PROVISORIO

15r brown 25r blue-green

BELGIUM .- A new series of Postal Packet stamps has been issued. The lower values are of the same design as the 1895-98 series, but have the value and inscription in the central circle printed in a different color from the rest of the design. The values in francs are of a new design, the principal feature of which is a winged wheel.

The denominations are in the sec-

ond color given in our list. Postal Packet stamps.

Perforated.

10c yellow-brown and slate.

15c slate and violet.

20c ultramarine and yellow-brown.

25c yellow-green and red.

30c orange and blue-green.

40c blue-green and violet.

50c pale rose and violet.

6oc violet and red. 70c blue and red.

8oc olive-bistre and violet-brown.

90c red and yellow-green.

Ifr violet-brown and orange.

2fr ochre and blue-green.

3fr black and ultramarine.

BULGARIA. - The current 5 stot-

inki card has appeared in gray green, on a thin card, yellow on the face and white on the back.

Postal Card. 5s gray-green on yellow

#### CAPE VERDE .-

Adhesive stamps. Perforated.

65

Surcharged

RÉIS

Surcharged on issue of 1886.

Red surcharge. 65r on 5r black

Black surcharge. 65r on 200r gray lilac

65r on 300r orange

115r on 1or green

115r on 20r rose

13or on 5or blue

13or on 10or brown

400r on 25r violet 400r on 40r chocolate

Surcharged on issue of 1894.

65r on 10r red-violet

65r on 20r lavender

65r on 100r brown on buff

115r on 5r orange

115r on 25r blue-green

115r on 15or carmine on rose

agor on 75r carmine

13or on 8or yellow-green

13or on 20or dark blue on blue

400r on 50r light blue

400r on 300r dark blue on salmon

Surcharged on Newspaper stamp of 1893.

400r on 21/2r brown Issue of 1898.

Surcharged in black PROVISORIO

15r brown 25r blue-green

CHILE.—The r centavo stamp of the current type has appeared; also 20, 30 and 50 centavos stamps of the same design, but with the head and figure of value printed in black. We have not seen the 50c, but are indebted to Mr. M. D. Senior for the information.

This gentleman also informs us that the 10 centavos of the current issue was expected to appear about the 18th of this month, and that the Chilean government has asked for designs for a new series of stamps to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the entry of the country into the Postal Union. As Chile entered the Postal Union on Aptil 1st, 1881, they seem to be looking rather far ahead. Possibly the date, April 1st, has something to do with the report.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

ic green.

20c gray and black.

30c purple and black.
50c red-orange and black.

colombian Republic.—We have received two new values of the current series, a Too Late stamp, a Return Receipt stamp, and the current 10c of the regular issue with sewing machine perforation. We have also received the 20 centavos of the Barranquilla issue which is described in the "Notes."

Adhesive stamps.





Imperforate.

2c brown on rose

4c red on green

Sewing-Machine perf.

10c black on pink

#### Too Late stamp.



Imperforate.
5c purple on rose
Return Receipt stamp.



Imperforate.

Toc blue on green

Barranquilla issue.



Sewing-Machine perf. 20c purple

PRANCE.—The 25 centimes stamp has appeared in the altered type, also single and reply cards of 10 centimes. Adhesive stamp.

25c blue

Postal cards.

Tox carmine on pale blue

French Offices in Hoi-Hao.—Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us the 15c blue, surcharged for this office, and tells us that only 150 copies of this variety were issued.

Adhesive stamp. Perforated. Red surcharge. GREAT BRITAIN.—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News reports two new Official stamps surcharged on the King's Head series.

We illustrate some of the new series which we have not previously reproduced.



Official stamps.
Watermarked Crown.
Perforated 14
Surcharged "Army Official".

6d violet on rose
Surcharged "Govt. Parcels".
18h green and carmine

Offices in the Levant.—The current 3 pence Registration envelope has been overprinted "REG". FEE—40 PARAS" in blue, for use in the Levant. We have seen the envelope in two sizes, 135x83mm. and 153x 95mm.

Registration envelope.

Blue surcharge. 40pa on 3p brown.

GUATEMALA.—It appears that there was a companion stamp to the two provisionals chronicled last month. This consists of the 25 centavos revenue stamp, surcharged with the word "CORREOS," the date "1902" and the new value, "6 CENTAVOS."

Two stamps of the quetzal type, the 20 and 25c, have appeared in new colors.

#### Adhesive stamps.



Provisional issue.
Perforated.
Black surcharge 6c on 25c red.
Regular issue.
20c bistre-brown.
25c blue-green.

GUINEA.—
Adhesive stamps.

65

Surcharged



Surcharged on issue of 1886-89. Black surcharge. 65r on 10r green 65r on 20r carmine 65r on 25r red-lilac 115r on 4or chocolate 115r on 5or blue 115r on 300r orange 13or on 8or gray 13or on 10or brown 400r on 200r gray-lilac Red surcharge. 40or on 3r black Surcharged on issue of 1893-94. Black surcharge. 65r on 10r red-violet 65r on 15r chocolate 65r on 20r lavender 65r on 5or light blue 115r on 5r yellow 115r on 25r blue-green 13or on 15or carmine on rose 13or on 20or dark blue on blue

13or on 3oor dark blue on salmon

400r on 75r rose

400r on 80r light green
400r on 100r brown on buff
Surcharged on Newspaper stamp
of 1893.

115r on 2½r brown
Issue of 1898.

Surcharged in black PROVISORIO
15r brown

HAYTI.—The Postage Due stamps have received the "Provisional Government" surcharge, as previously described for the stamps of the regular issue. We find a copy of the 2 centavos with the surcharge printed twice and also a copy with it inverted.

Among the stamps of the regular issue we have found the 1, 2, 7 and 10c with double surcharge and the 1c with inverted surcharge.

Postage Due stamps.
Provisional issue.
Black surcharge.
2c greenish black
5c orange brown
10c orange
5oc slate

25r dark green

stamp has appeared in a new shade and also from a new plate. Heretofore the 3 aur has had the central figure smaller than others of the series. It is now of corresponding size.

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked Crown.
Perforated 12½.
3a buff.

INDIA.—We are indebted to Mr. W. Corfield for advance illustrations of three new stamps, an envelope and a postal card, which were issued on Coronation Day, August 9th, 1902. We have since received the stamps.

#### Adhesive stamps.







Watermarked star.

Perf. 14.

3p gray

1/2 a green

1a carmine

Envelope.

½a green

Postal card.

¼a brown on cream

INDIA—Bhopaul.—Messrs. Ram Gopal & Co. have shown us a new issue for this state. Adhesive stamps.



Imperforate.

%a red

1/2 a black

1a brown

2a blue

4a orange

8a violet

II rose

PATIALA.—The current one anna stamp has received the "Service" surcharge. Official stamp,
Watermarked Star.
Perforated 14.
1a carmine

JAPAN.—Offices in China.—The current ½ sen stamp has appeared with the surcharge for these offices.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated.

Red surcharge.

1/2 sen gray

LEEWARD ISLANDS. — Pending the arrival of the new King's Head series, the stock of one penny stamps was exhausted and certain of the other values were overprinted to supply the deficiency. The 4p and 6p were overprinted "ONE PENNY" in two lines, with a bar across the original value, and the 7p was similarly overprinted but with the words in one line and in much smaller type.

The issue was at first stated to have consisted of only 1,200 copies. Afterwards this number was raised to 2,400 and still later to 24,000. There seems to be some confusion as to the

actual number.

Adhesive stamps.





Provisional issue.
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perf. 14.
Black surcharge.

ip on 4p lilac and orange

rp on 6p " " brown rp on 7p " " slate

MADAGASCAR (French.)—Three provisional stamps have been issued for this country, made by surcharging new figures of value and a bar over the old value. It is said that on one sheet (150 stamps) of each value the surcharge was printed inverted. This was not accidental but intentional.

Adhesive stamps.
Provisional issue.
Black surcharge.
5 on 50c carmine on rose
10 on 5fr red-lilac on lavender
15 on 1fr bronze-green on straw

mauritius.—We have received a new 8c and 12c of the Arms type; also several varieties of the Arms and Queen's Head stamps, overprinted "POSTAGE &—REVENUE" at the sides.

Adhesive stamps.
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
8c gray-green on buff
12c black and carmine

Surcharge in black.

On issue of 1879-80.
Watermarked Crown and C. C.
50c green
2r 50c brown-violet
On issue of 1882-83.
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
25c bistre
On issue of 1899-00.
4c lilac and carmine on yellow
6c green and carmine
15c green and orange

MONTENEGRO.—We chronicled last month a new issue for this country without having seen all the adhesive stamps or any of the stationery. We now find that our correspondent's description of some of the colors was inaccurate, we chronicle them in the proper colors.

We also illustrate the Return Registration Receipt stamp and copy from Der Philatelist the description of the new stationery. Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
5k buff
Unpaid Letter stamp.
1k pale gray-green



Return Receipt stamp. 25k orange and carmine Envelopes.

10h rose on white, size 134x116mm. 25h dark blue on yellow, size 150x130

Wrappers,
Size 150x300mm.
5h green on yellow
10h rose on yellow
Postal cards.
Size 143x90mm.
5h green on yellow
5x5h " "
10h rose on blue
10x10h " "

Letter cards.
Size 140x85mm.
10h rose on yellow
25h dark blue on blue

NEW ZEALAND.—A new issue of Unpaid Letter stamps is reported for this country. So far, only the ½ penny has been issued. The design has the value in a small circle in the center on a background of horizontal lines in red, "Postage Due" is curved above this and the words "New Zealand" appear in a straight line across the bottom.

Unpaid Letter stamp.
Unwatermarked.
Perforated 11.
%p green on red

NIUE.—As has been anticipated, the current 1/2 and 1p stamps of New

Zealand, on paper watermarked single-lined N. Z and Star, have been overprinted for use in this island. The ½ and 2½p now appear with the surcharge in vermilion, instead of carmine.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked singled-lined N. Z. and Star.

Perforated.

Vermilion surcharge.

½p green

Blue surcharge.

1p carmine.

Unwatermarked.

Perf. 11.

Vermilion surcharge.

2½p blue

NORTH BORNEO.—The recently issued 10 and 16 cents stamps have been overprinted "British—Protectorate" in two lines.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 14.

Red surcharge.

10c violet and dark brown

Black surcharge.

16c yellow-brown and green

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—The 6-penny ultramarine of Orange Free State has been overprinted "E. R. I. 6d", in two lines.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14.

Black surcharge.

6p ultramarine

PENRHYN.—The new ½p and 1p stamps of New Zealand, on paper watermarked single-lined N. Z. and Star, have been surcharged for use in this island. As in Niue, the ½p and 2½p stamps now have the surcharge in vermilion, instead of carmine.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked single-lined N. Z. and Star.

Perf. 14.
Vermilion surcharge.
½p green
Blue surcharge.
1p carmine

Unwatermarked. Perf. 11.

Vermilion surcharge.

21/2p blue

PERSIA.—The Monthly Journal reports a 3 shahi black of the provisional issue which was made in Meshed by Mr. Victor Castaigne.

Surcharging being in fashion for this country, the I kran stamp has been overprinted with the word "SERVICE" at the top and, at bottom, with new value in French and Persian.

Adhesive stamp.



Imperforate.
3s black
Official stamps.
Provisional issue.
Perforated.
Black surcharge.
5ch on ikr carmine
1och on ikr carmine

PERU.— Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News reports two provisional Unpaid Letter stamps. The provisionals are made by surcharging the 20c blue Unpaid Letter stamp of 1874-79 with new values. One has the word "Deficit" in sans serif capitals across the upper part of the stamp and "Un Centavo" in two lines across the lower part; the other is surcharged, vertically, "Deficit—Cinco Centavos" in two lines of sans serif capitals.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.
Provisional issue.
Black surcharge.
10 on 200 blue
50 on 200 blue

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—The surcharge is in reis and tangas, printed in the same style of type as the surcharges of the other Portuguese Colonies.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.
Surcharged on issue of 1896.
Black surcharge.
11 on 2t blue
21 on 4½1 bistre
2½1 on 61 green

3r on it rose 2½t on 4t gray-violet 5t on 8t orange Red surcharge.

2 ½ t on 1 ½ r black Surcharged on issue of 1895-96. Black surcharge, 11 on 6r green

2r on 8t bright violet 2½r on 9r gray-violet 3r on 4½r yellow 3r on 1t light blue 5t on 2t rose

5t on 4t dark blue Red surcharge. 21/2t on 11/2r black

Surcharged in black PROVISORIO

6r brown 1t blue-green

Issue of 1898.

SERVIA.—The color of the current 5 paras stamp has been changed to yellow-green.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 11½.
5pa yellow-green

SOMALI GOAST.— Various new Wales, on provisional issues have been added watermark.

to the already long list of offenses in this line; also three new stamps of a regular and, we hope, permanent issue have appeared. Of the provisionals the 10c on 25c exists with inverted surcharge.

Adhesive stamps.
Provisional issue.
Imperforate.
Black surcharge.
On stamps of Obock.
5c on 30c bistre and yellow-green 10c on 25c black and blue
10c on 50c lilac-rose and blue
10c on 2fr orange and violet
Regular issue.



Perforated 11.
1c violet and orange.
2c yellow-brown and yellow-green
5c blue-green and yellow-green

ST. LUCIA.—Stamps of the King's Head type of ½ and 1 penny denominations have been issued. Other values of the series will not be put into use until the stock of Queen's Head stamps is exhausted,

Adhesive stamps.
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
%p violet and green
Ip " carmine

Kirkpatrick & Pemberton have shown us a Postage Due stamp used in this colony. The design is the same as that of the Postage Due stamps of New South Wales, with the letters, "N. S. W.", in the lower part erased. The values ½, 1, 2, 4, 6 pence and 5 shillings have been issued. The stamps are printed in New South Wales, on paper with the "N. S. W." watermark.

There seems to be some uncertainty, even in Australia, as to whether these stamps are intended for use in South Australia alone or for others of the colonies. The August number of the Australian Journal of Philately says: "We have been informed that a supply of Postage Due stamps has been printed and sent to Queensland, South Australia and West Australia, for use in those states. They are of the same design and color as the "N. S. W." Postage Dues, with the letters "N. S. W." taken out. Two new values have been added, viz.: 5d and 1od."

Postage Due stamps.

Watermarked Crown and N. S. W.



Perforated 111/2.

5sh

TRANSVAAL.—The Collectionneur de Timbres Poste reports two wrappers and two reply cards of the King's Head type.

Wrappers.
½p green on buff
ip carmine on buff
Postal cards.

1/2 x 1/2 p green on white 1 x 1p rose on buff

TRINIDAD.—In November last we reported that new ½ penny, 1 penny and 1 shilling stamps had been printed and sent to this colony. The 1 penny was placed on sale in January last; the ½ penny has just appeared, but, so far as we can learn, the 1 shilling is not yet in issue.

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perf. 14.
½p green

TUNIS.—A provisional stamp has appeared for this country, made by surcharging the 15c with a new value, 25c, in red, the original value being obliterated by three bars. It is said that this was done to avoid confusion between the old 15c and the 25c, both of which were printed in blue, and also to use up the considerable stock of the former value which was on hand when the 15c gray came into use.

Adhesive stamp.



Provisional issue. Red surcharge. 25c on 15c blue.

TURKEY.—The Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal reports a provisional envelope made by surcharging the current one piastre envelope with new value.

Envelope.
Provisional issue.
Blue surcharge.
20pa on 1pi ultramarine on yellow

URUGUAY.—We have seen a set of Postage Due stamps for this country. Adhesive stamps.



Perforated.
1c blue green
2c carmine
4c violet
1oc dark blue
2oc ochre

VENEZUELA. -- We have received five very ugly typeset labels, which appear to constitute a provisional issue for this country. From the inscription we judge they are issued in the city of Carupano. The values 5, 25, 50 and 100c are of one type and the roc of a second. The first four are alike, except for differences in denomination and in the arrangement of the typeset border. These four stamps appear to be printed in a hand-press, on strips of paper containing ten impressions each. The 10 centavos stamps are printed in tête bêche pairs; at least, so far as we have seen.

Adhesive stamps.





Imperforate.
5c purple on orange
10c black on orange
25c purple on green
50c green on yellow
100c blue on rose

VICTORIA.—The £2 stamp, which was announced so long ago, has at last appeared. The design is similar to that of the £1, which we illustrated in January last.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked V and Crown. Perforated 14. £2 deep blue.



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### SEPTEMBER BARGAINS.

\*MEANS USED.

*MEANS	USED.
Bolivia, 1902, 20c25	Montenegro.
COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.	1902, 1h
	" 2h
1902, 2c imperf	" 5h
" 5c "	" 10h
" 100 "	" 25h
" 20C "	" 50h
" 10c perf	" ik
" 5c Too Late04	" 2k
" 10c Registration06	5K 1.75
" 20c Barranquilla12	Unpaid, 5n
Danish West Indies, 1902, 8c .15	10h04
Denmark, 1902, 10	25h10
Dutch Indies, 1902, ½ on ac .03	50h20
GOLD COAST.	1K
	Return Registration, 25n .10
1902, King's Head, ½p .03	Natal, 1902, King's Head, 1p04
1p .04	3p .10
" " 2½p .og	NIUE.
" " " 3p .10	1902, Double Line N Z & Star, 3/2 0.04
" " " 6p .20	" Single " " " ½p.03
" ii is .40	" " " " p.06
HAYTI.	44 77 . 1 1 1 7/
D 0 11	Northern Nigeria.
1902, Prov. Gov't., 1c blue	1902, King's Head, 1/2p .03
ac orange00	" ip .04
5c red brown .12	" " " 2p .07
Guatemala, 1902, 20012	" " " 2½p .09
" 25c	" " " 5p .18
Iceland, 1902, 3A, Re-engraved .02	" " 6p .20
	PENRHYN ISLAND.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.	1902; Double Line N Z & Star, 1/2p.04
King's Head, 1902, ½p .03	8 . u . u . u . u . u . u . u . u . u .
" " if ip .04	" Single " " " ½p.03
2½p .09	" Unwatermarked 21/2p . 15
" " 6p .20	VENEZUELA.
" IS .40	Provisional, 1902, 5c .05
Mauritius.	100 .08
1902, 8c	25C .15
" 12C	500 .25
" surcharged Postage and	1.00 .50
Revenue, 4c	Special Offers.
" surcharged Postage and	Brazil, 1899, violet surcharge Poul
Revenue, 6c	100R on 50R brown yellow .85
" surcharged Postage and	*Antioquia, 1902, 3c
Revenue, 15c	* " 4c
" surcharged Postage and	* " 5c
Revenue, 25c	*Hungary, 1901, 2kr
surcharged Postage and	3kr20
Revenue, 50c 35	* " 5kr60
10 per cent, discour	nt on single stamps.